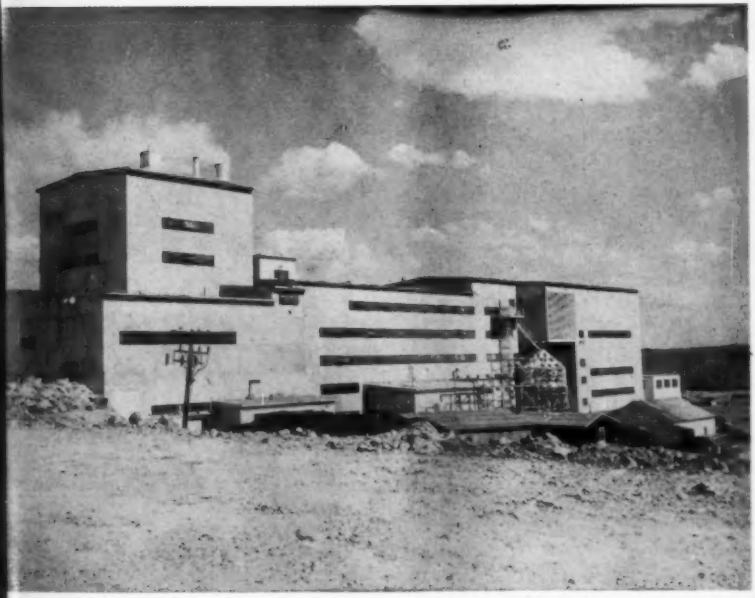
ASBESTOS



Asbestos Mill at the Newest Asbestos Mine
Munro Township, Ontario, Canada

OCTOBER - 1950

85% MAGNESIA . . pipe coverings, blocks and cement. For temperatures up to 600° F.

EHRET'S ENDURO . . Used with 85% MAGNESIA for temperatures from 600° to 2000° F. Pipe coverings, blocks and cement.

LOW PRESSURE COVERINGS . . hair felt, mineral wool, asbestos paper and products.

VALLEY FORGE PACKINGS . . A complete line of quality packings for practically every purpose.

Write for details of the complete Ehret line. It includes practically every type of heat and cold insulation, and asbestos products.

EHRET MAGNESIA MANUFACTURING COMPANY

VALLEY FORGE • PENNSYLVANIA

"ASBESTOS"

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STOCKPILING?

A few days ago we read in a newspaper editorial a statement to the effect that the U. S. Government was going into certain foreign markets and bidding against other nations for certain raw materials which may be needed later on and then will be unobtainable probably. This was called stockpiling.

About the same time numerous people were buying various things, sugar for instance, as a matter of precaution against shortages in future. This was decried as "hoarding".

We would be glad to have someone tell us the difference between the two.

We are told that hoarding results in higher prices and inflation. And we suppose that "stockpiling" does not result in higher prices and inflation!

As editor of "ASBESTOS" I must decry hoarding, but as a common, everyday person—I am "acting with precaution"!

THOSE FORGOTTEN ITEMS

In the last few days we have a large number of letters which have left out the enclosure which was supposed to accompany the letter, or neglected to state in the letter some important information.

Perhaps it is the warm, humid weather, or the excitement of the vacation, or perhaps only the use of vacation help, but there seems to be more than the usual number of errors of this sort.

Whatever it is it has occasioned us a lot of work, writing and asking for the enclosure which wasn't there.

And of course it caused just as much work at the other end, looking up the correspondence in the file, writing another letter and addressing another envelope, besides the spending of another stamp, and the added burden to an already overworked postman.

One error, one omission, makes a lot more work for everybody!

SOLVING ASBESTOS CONUNDRUMS

Continuing our discussion of Inquiries, readers often write us for information which is in the province of some other association or agency.

For instance we were asked who made Fireproof Paint. The Inquirer was referred to the National Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association.

Another correspondent asked how to use asbestos in asphalt road work. We suggested he contact the Asphalt Institute.

And the man who asked what kind of paint was best for painting asbestos-cement shingles was sent to the Asbestos Cement Products Association as we happened to know they had been working on this very problem.

Then there was the inquirer who asked us the duty on asbestos fibre from Japan when shipped into England—the British Consulate very courteously gave us the answer.

If we do not happen to know the answers to the very many questions which come to us we have a host of friends in these various agencies on whom we can call, and in turn they write or telephone us from time to time for information.

It's interesting work—the constant solving of asbestos conundrums!

ASBESTOS SYNTHESIS

There has been more or less talk recently about synthesizing asbestos. We understand (from Preprint of Minerals Yearbook Chapter on Asbestos) that a project on asbestos synthesis was established in 1949 by the Bureau of Mines at Norris, Tenn.

"Much work has been done in recent years" reads the report, "on crystal-growth problems, and the body of information is reaching a point where technologists feel there is prospect of discovering methods of synthesizing asbestos in quantity. It is anticipated that these products may not have exactly the same chemical compositions as the natural forms of asbestos but will have similar physical properties".

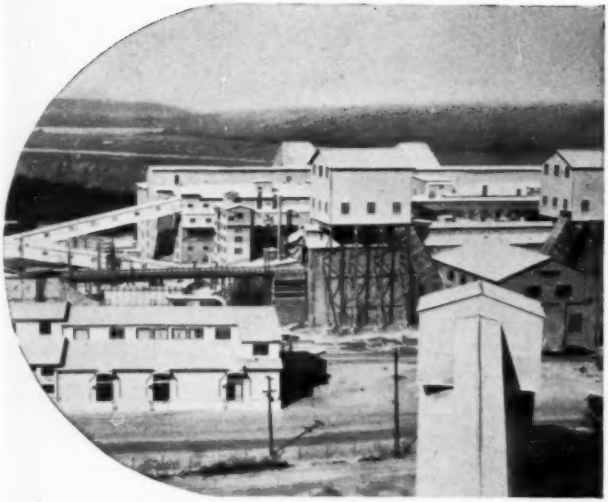
ACOUSTIC MATERIALS

(A reprint of Building Research Summary Report 72, issued by the National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D. C.)

Since this report is not available to the general public in either mimeographed or printed form, we believed our readers would appreciate having it reprinted in "ASBESTOS". It will appear in three sections, being too long to print in its entirety in one issue.

Few office and public buildings of any consequence are constructed or remodeled today without some provision for acoustic treatment of their interiors. The fact that builders of large buildings allocate hundreds of thousands and even millions of dollars for acoustic treatment indicates the importance of acoustic materials in modern building technology. Unfortunately, the design and application of acoustic materials is often done arbitrarily. This is due in part to the complexity of the phenomenon of sound absorption by acoustic materials. All too often, however, manufacturers, architects and applicators fail to use the information on acoustic materials which is already available.

To remedy the situation, the National Bureau of Standards has been engaged since the early days of the acoustic materials industry in an extensive program of research and development, involving all phases of architectural acoustics. This work has included the measurement of sound absorption and transmission for a wide variety of materials, the development of new types of sound isolating structures, theoretical and experimental studies of sound absorption and transmission processes, and the development of new instruments and techniques for acoustic measurements. Such knowledge, published primarily to guide Government agencies in the proper selection of commercially available materials, also aids business and industry as a whole to obtain more adequate control of noise levels, whether in architectural or product design. For a better understanding of the problems arising from the complicated sound absorption process, a brief review of the essential theory underlying acoustic materials, some of the principles governing their use and methods of measurement should be helpful.



Bird's eye view of service buildings adjoining J-M Mine at Asbestos, Quebec.

Acoustic materials present a two-sided problem. On one hand are the structural factors which influence their sound absorbing power. Then again, the behavior of sound itself in a house, office, church, or theater, continually intrudes to alter the apparent properties of acoustic materials. In some rooms, the sound absorbing power of a material can be quite different in different locations in the rooms. In this discussion only the factors pertaining to the materials themselves shall be emphasized.

Purpose of Acoustic Materials. Modern building materials and techniques lead to hard, smooth interior walls which are notoriously poor sound absorbers. After a source of sound, for instance a speaker's voice, is suddenly stopped in a room with hard plaster walls, the sound does not stop immediately. Rather, it is reflected from wall to wall, only a small fraction of its energy being absorbed at each reflection, until eventually the energy is so far reduced that the sound becomes inaudible. This persistence of sound after the source is stopped is called reverberation, and the time required for the energy of the original sound to decay to one millionth of its original value is called the reverberation time of the room.

Excessive reverberation is common and is a serious defect in many churches, theatres, office and factory rooms. Conversation in reverberant rooms is annoying. Preceding speech syllables overlap succeeding syllables and, if the reverberation time is very long, conversation becomes extremely difficult. Moreover when noisy devices like typewriters or electric fans are operated in an excessively reverberant room, the general noise level builds up to a much higher level than it would be if the same appliances were operated in nonreverberant surroundings. Reverberation, however, is not without its benefits. The reinforcing effect of reverberant enclosures can actually serve to enhance speech and music, provided the reverberant time is held within certain limits. The acceptable limits for speech are from ½ second for small rooms to about 1 second for very large rooms. It is possible to predict in advance of construction, or remodelling, the amount of acoustic material which must be placed in a given room to obtain the optimal reverberation time

Acoustic materials have the ability to absorb much greater fractions of the energy of the sounds incident upon them than do ordinary plaster or masonry walls. In a room with walls treated with such materials, a sound wave undergoes many fewer reflections before it becomes inaudible.

The fraction of the incident sound energy which is absorbed at each reflection is called the sound absorption coefficient of the material. It is a dimensionless quantity with a range from zero to unity depending on the material and the frequency of the sound. For a smooth-finished solid masonry wall, it may be as low as 0.01 at very low frequencies. But sound absorbent coverings with coefficients approaching the theoretical limit of 1.00 for most of the audible frequency range have been developed for lining special acoustic test rooms in which it is necessary to hold reverberation to a minimum.

Sound Absorption Processes. Two essentially different processes govern the absorption of sound by acoustic materials. First, in porous materials, sound energy is transformed into heat by the viscous forces which are brought into play when sound is propagated thru the materials. Second, sound is dissipated by frictional forces when acoustic materials are set into vibration by the incident sound. Both processes always occur simultaneously. Either process may predominate, however, depending on the structure of the material and the way it is mounted.

When a sound wave comes in contact with rigid porous material on the wall of a room, part of the incident sound energy is reflected back into the room by the surface of the material. The remainder is used to set in motion the air contained within the pores and voids of the material. In pores sufficiently narrow, viscous forces between the air and the walls of the pores oppose the motion of the air. Sound energy is transformed into heat as the wave progresses thru the material and if the material is thick enough, all of the sound energy in that fraction of the wave which entered the material will be entirely dissipated. The usual acoustic materials, however, average

somewhat less than an inch in thickness. In this short distance, even the more efficient absorbers usually cannot absorb all of the sound energy transferred to the air in the pores. The unabsorbed portion is propagated thru the back surface only to be reflected back into the material by the wall on which the material is mounted. After suffering further reduction in energy, what is left of the sound wave emerges from the front surface to combine with the initially reflected portion.

It is evident that in the absence of any other absorption process, a porous material can absorb sound only if its interior is permeated by interconnecting pores and voids, and if the surface is open to permit direct access to the interior. This explains why some cellular materials like foamed glass do not absorb sound readily. The voids are completely isolated from one another by the walls of the cells so that air cannot pass from one void to another.

The exposed surface of acoustic materials is often perforated by relatively large holes, or slots. The perforations range from 1/16 inch to ¼ inch in diameter, or width, and extend deeply into the material. As long as the total area of the perforations is greater than 10% of the total surface, the surface of the material behaves as if it were transparent to sound. The effect of the perforations is the same as if a much greater surface area of the material were exposed to the sound.

In the early days of the acoustic materials industry it was generally believed that only porous materials could have appreciable sound absorbing power. Numerous instances have been noted, however, where absorption was not materially decreased even after the surface openings were entirely closed off by an impervious membrane.

Sound exerts an alternating pressure on any surface on which it is incident. If the surface yields to pressure, a train of sound waves will set it into oscillatory motion. The train of sound waves may not have a plane wave front. Then the pressure exerted will vary from point to point on the surface. Or the surface may not offer the same resistance to motion at different points. For example, a sheet of acoustic material may be constrained at

some points more than at others by being nailed to furring. In either case, the sheet will be set into flexural vibrations which will be damped by the frictional forces between the fibres, or grains, composing the sheet. This type of absorption is often called diaphragmatic absorption and is exhibited by many fibrous materials like those composed of felted asbestos, wood or glass fibres. Such materials can absorb relatively large amounts of sound even with an impervious surface. Occasionally acoustic tiles and boards are made more flexible by saw-cut scoring to take advantage of the diaphragmatic absorption process.

By anchoring one surface of a flexible resilient material to a rigid wall by means of a suitable cement the sheet can be prevented from vibrating as a whole. But vibrations can still be produced in the free surface. Obviously, a material with an impervious surface behaves quite differently when it is firmly cemented to a wall than when it is spaced out from a wall by nailing it to furring.

The method of mounting an acoustic material can influence greatly its sound absorbing power. Numerous measurements reveal that an increase in the airspace back of a material increases its sound absorbing power, particularly at the lower frequencies. Architects and acoustic engineers often make use of this effect in prescribing acoustic treatment. At higher frequencies, other phenomena may enter the picture in such a way as to completely nullify the effects of spacing. Consequently, in the absence of adequate theory, the effects of mounting on the absorbing power of a particular acoustic material can be appraised only by direct measurement.

Editor's Note: The second installment will treat of "Types of Acoustic Materials". It will appear in the November issue.

CAREY'S NEW MAGNESIA PLANT

Over a period of approximately seventy years, 85% Magnesia of the conventional "filter molded" type has attained an enviable reputation as one of the most permanent, practical conservers of heat, but thanks to research, backed by financial investment, a still better product is being made available in the building and insulating field. This improved product being manufactured in a new, multi-million dollar plant by the Philip Carey Manufacturing Company in Plymouth Meeting, Pa., carries the name of "Super-Light" 85% magnesia.

Aerial View of Carey's Plant at Plymouth Meeting, Pa., showing the new Magnesia Process Plant, the new Super-Light Division as well as the Filter Press Plant for the production of 85% Magnesia and High Temperature Insulations.

The story of magnesia as a form of insulation is very interesting and briefly told. Like countless other discoveries, this mineral substance gained recognition as heat insulation by accident coupled with intelligent observation. It was a plant engineer who noted that the temperature of a drying room for pharmaceutical magnesia was reduced perceptibly when the heating pipes and other parts of the equipment were covered with the almost microscopic, intensely white particles of magnesia powder.

Then followed a development process of mixing with a binding fibre and filter molding into desired shapes. Eventually, a standard proportion of 85% basic hydrated Carbonate of Magnesia and 15% fibre was adopted and

this then new product named 85% magnesia revolutionized the heat insulation business. For two generations it has remained the dependable standard of heat insulation value.

"Super-Light" 85% Magnesia is a mixture of not less than 85% basic hydrated Carbonate of Magnesia and 10% to 15% of asbestos fibre. It differs in its manufacture from the filter molded type in that it is hydraulically self-setting in machine molds. This is a radical departure from the filter press methods which have been in use for almost three quarters of a century.

Three very important characteristics are inherent in this new process: the substance maintains domensional stability in the wet state, the shrinkage percentage is practically negligible, and the strength—weight ratio is much greater.

This new Carey plant is the largest plant (productive capacity) of any that has been built to produce this improved type of 85% Magnesia and the combination of the new plant and Carey's filter molded type 85% Magnesia plant gives Carey the distinction of having the largest single producing unit devoted exclusively to the production of 85% Magnesia and diatomaceous earth type high temperature insulation.

Another feature which distinguishes this plant from all other plants of this type is the million dollar chemical unit involving an exclusive process developed by Carey chemical engineers, which extracts Carbonate of Magnesia from dolomite rock by a continuous process that gives unusually close chemical control of the product.

• • • —

A. S. T. M. Committee C-17's (Asbestos Cement Products) primary objective at present is the development of proposed tentative specifications covering asbestos-cement pressure pipe. A task group is developing methods of test to evaluate the "handleability" of asbestos-cement products. Preliminary research is underway in developing data on breaking loads of flat asbestos-cement sheets leading to the development of a specification for this type of product. The above is report on work of this Committee taken from the September issue of the ASTM Bulletin.

TRIAL BY FIRE

A Service Tale

Practically everyone, and especially everyone in the Asbestos Industry, knows of the protection which asbestos-cement shingles and siding give against the spread of fire. We have published a number of specific instances but our attention has just been drawn to another.

In fact this is strikingly demonstrated in the above photograph taken recently at the plant of the Paper Products Manufacturing Co. at Swarthmore, Pa.

At the right are the ruins of the company's stock building, a frame structure in which the fire started and which was burned to the ground. At the left, across a

Stock Building to the right was entirely destroyed; the main building on the left was saved by its asbestos-cement siding.

narrow roadway, is part of the company's main building, protected with asbestos-cement siding. The heat from the fire was so intense that it broke windows and ignited some window frames, in the latter building, but caused no other damage there.

In the opinion of the local fire department, the only thing that saved the main building was the fireproof asbestos siding on the wall directly across from the fire.

Incidentally the siding was made and supplied by The Ruberoid Co.

AUTOMOBILE FACTS AND FIGURES
30th EDITION

This pamphlet, issued yearly, contains many statistics of interest to everyone. A copy may be obtained upon request of the Automobile Manufacturers Association, New Center Building, Detroit 2, Michigan, but we give below a few of the most interesting figures:

¶ During 1949 the United States produced 6,253,602 motor vehicles of all kinds, which is the highest production for any year; 1948 was next with 5,285,425.

¶ The number of new motor registrations in the United States during 1949 was 5,800,303, of which 4,838,342 were passenger cars and 961,961 were commercial cars and trucks.

¶ Forty-two per cent of cars now in use are 10 years of age and over.

¶ Total motor vehicle registrations in the United States at present are 44,670,588, that is in 1949.

¶ There were 64,000,000 Motor Vehicles in the world in 1949.

¶ Seventy-seven per cent of the world's cars and 52% of the trucks are in the United States.

¶ Gasoline Consumption in 1949 was 33% higher than in 1941—the 1949 figure being 32,300,000,000 gallons.

¶ Leading Automobile Markets average 1.4 passenger cars per family.

¶ One out of every 5 cars in use is driven over 80,000 miles. Average mileage on all cars in use is 51,000.

¶ Over 9,000,000 people are employed in Highway Transport Industries.

¶ 5,719 automotive patents were issued in 1949.

¶ Taxes take 24 cents out of every automobile dollar.

¶ In 1949 special motor vehicle taxes totalled $3,845,000,000.

There are many other interesting figures, some illustrated with graphs in this 80 page booklet.

MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS.

Business is influenced by so many factors at present that we hardly know how to summarize it in a few short paragraphs.

Production of war material is taking precedent over the production of heavy consumer goods, such as refrigerators, automobiles, television sets, deep-freezers, vacuum cleaners, etc., but the call for these last named articles is greater than ever because people fear the production of heavy goods will be cut down later on and not only shortages will occur but prices will be increased.

At the same time expansion calls for a heavier building program, more machinery, machine tools, etc.,—it is, we fear, a never ending round in production and a spiral so far as wages and prices are concerned. "Raise wages but keep prices down" is a wonderful theory but an impossible practice as any business man knows.

The building program is continuing at a high rate, despite temporary shortages in some building materials, which may continue thru October.

ASBESTOS—RAW MATERIAL

Because of the nine day railway strike in Canada some pent up demand and curtailed production occurred. On renewal of railroad operations a car shortage developed and this caused a large movement by truck, to an extent never before experienced in the Asbestos Industry.

Production is running at top levels at present but demand continues to exceed the supply in practically all grades.

ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS.

Asbestos Textiles. At present production is below demand, and rather substantial backlog of orders exists, especially on tapes and cloths. Labor costs have increased and there is a trend of rising prices as in most other things.

Asbestos Brake Lining. This industry is running at record high levels. There may be some "scare" buying and some "stockpiling" is also noticed. Jobbers had let stocks

dwindle anticipating price reductions. Now that every indication points to higher prices rather than lower, there is a rush to build up stocks before higher prices actually occur.

Asbestos Paper. Increasing demand also is found in this market in an attempt to cover before prices are increased. Demand is keeping up with production and may exceed it before the end of 1950. At present most manufacturers are making prompt shipment.

Asbestos Millboard. Practically the same conditions exist in this market as in Asbestos Paper. A few firms in both markets report a small backlog (five or six weeks probably).

Insulation. High Pressure. While some firms report that production exceeds demand, others tell us they have a small backlog, especially in certain sizes and thicknesses. There was a considerable pickup in this market during the past few months but that now seems to be tapering off.

Business should be good for the remainder of 1950 and higher than the same period in 1949.

Insulation. Low Pressure. An increasing demand exists in the Low Pressure Insulation market but of course this is mostly seasonal and is caused by building activity. The market seems to be slightly better than this time last year.

Asbestos-Cement Products. Demand far exceeds production in fact that for siding and roofing is heavier than ever before.

Corrugated requirements have increased greatly in the past two or three months.

While the season (before winter sets in) has something to do with this, most of the demand cannot be attributed to natural seasonal influence.

As to pipes, water and sewer line construction is at a very high level and therefore substantial backlogs and low deliveries of all types of asbestos-cement pipe are reported.

These comments have been compiled from reports sent us by men closely in touch with the various markets. Your comments would be welcomed.

— . . .

It is the worst wheel that creaks the loudest.

Africa (S. Rhodesia)

(Published by Rhodesia Chamber of Mines)

Tons—2000 lbs.

Production for June 1950	6,440.86 tons
Valued at	£421,693

Africa (Swaziland)

Production for June 1950	2,750 tons (2000 lbs.)
Production for July 1950	2,750 tons (2000 lbs.)
Production for August 1950	2,750 tons (2000 lbs.)

Canada

(Department of Mines, Province of Quebec)

Tons—2000 lbs.

Production July 1950	57,068 tons
Compared with July 1949	64,735 tons

Note: Production for June 1950 was given in our September 1950 number as 66,874 tons, all of which came from Quebec. Since then we have received the Dominion production figure,—for June—67,781, the difference, or 907 tons most probably being production of *Ontario*.

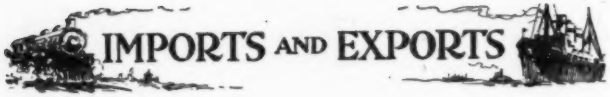
Union of South Africa

(Quarterly Information Report—Dept. of Mines)

Tons—2000 lbs.

1st Quarter (Jan., Feb., Mar.) 1950

	Production	Local Sales		Exports	
	Tons	Tons	Value	Tons	Value
Amosite	9,750	979	£13,816	7,845	£272,605
Anthophyllite				20	444
Chrysotile	3,093	290	8,457	1,820	108,749
Cape Blue	3,214	221	8,252	2,584	157,507
Transvaal Blue	2,818	33	1,320	2,356	136,618
	18,875	1,523	£31,845	14,625	£675,923



Imports into U. S. A.
(Figures by Bureau of Census)
Unmanufactured Asbestos—By Countries

	June 1950 Tons (2240 lbs.)
From Canada	49,199
S. Rhodesia	1,646
South Africa	1,580
Mozambique	23
Italy	2
Australia	23
	52,473
Valued at	*$4,152,986*
By Grades:	
Crude No. 1 Chrysotile, Canada	189
Crude No. 1 Chrysotile, S. Rhodesia	590
Crude No. 1 Chrysotile, Italy	2
Crude No. 2, Chrysotile, Canada	13
Crude No. 2 Chrysotile, S. Rhodesia	229
Crude—Other Chrysotile Canada	175
Crude—Other Chrysotile, U. of S. Africa	521
Crude—Other Chrysotile, S. Rhodesia	630
Crude—Blue, U. of South Africa	536
Crude—Blue, Australia	23
Crude—Amosite, U. of S. Africa	523
Crude—Amosite, Mozambique	23
Crude—Amosite, S. Rhodesia	197
Textile Fibres—Canada, (Chrysotile)	2,392
Shingle Fibres—Canada, (Chrysotile)	6,644
Paper Fibres—Canada, (Chrysotile)	4,806
Other Fibres—Canada, (Chrysotile)	34,980
	52,473

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	June 1950 Quantity (Lbs.)	Value
Asbestos Yarn		
United Kingdom	6,225	$ 6,071
Asbestos Packing—Fabric		
United Kingdom	273	179
Asbestos Packing—Not Fabric		
United Kingdom	2,075	953

(Continued on page 30)

Imports Manufactured Asbestos Goods—Continued

	June 1950 Quantity (Lbs.)	Value
Asbestos Woven Fabrics—Other		
Canada	4	9
France	36	11
Asbestos Brake Lining—Molded		
Canada	49	100
United Kingdom	225	131
Asbestos Cement Products—Impregnated		
Canada	26	2
Asbestos Cement Products—Not Impregnated		
Canada	214,122	12,725
Italy	28,177	1,247
Asbestos Manufactures—Other		
Canada	....	281
Jamaica		132
	251,212	$21,841

Exports from U. S. A.

(Figures by Bureau of Census)

Unmanufactured Asbestos:

	June 1950 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
To United Kingdom		
S. America	6	$ 1,875
Central America and Mexico	174	36,820
Europe	1,794	345,728
Other Countries	397	76,751
	2,371	$461,174

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	Quantity	Value
Asbestos Pipe Covg. & Cement ..... Lbs.	165,696	$ 16,994
Asbestos Textiles and Yarn ..... Lbs.	80,976	37,725
Asbestos Packing ..... Lbs.	108,192	89,642
Asbestos Brake Lng. (Mld.&S.Mld.) Lbs.	342,787	266,350
Asbestos Brake Lng. (Woven) ..... L. Ft.	39,203	25,563
Asbestos Clutch Facings ..... No.	106,875	61,170
Asbestos Brake Blocks ..... Lbs.	42,453	37,988
Asbestos Construction Materials ..... Lbs.	1,985,653	122,046
Asbestos Manufactures—Other	....	18,263
		$675,741

Exports From Canada

(Published by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Unmanufactured Asbestos:	July 1950 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Crude		
United States	30	$ 17,629
United Kingdom	..	..
South America	..	..
Central America & Mexico	..	..
European Countries	18	14,674
Other Countries	..	..
	48	$ 32,303
Milled		
United States	9,595	$1,271,354
United Kingdom	1,727	239,987
South America	1,237	205,869
Central America & Mexico	398	56,639
European Countries	3,032	491,051
Other Countries	2,493	300,805
	18,482	$2,566,705
Shorts		
United States	27,942	$1,103,319
United Kingdom	1,275	58,362
South America	273	17,807
Central America & Mexico	60	2,062
European Countries	1,699	101,137
Other Countries	480	26,429
	31,729	$1,309,116
Grand Total—Unmanufactured Asbestos	*50,259*	*$3,908,124*
Manufactured Asbestos Goods:		
Brake Lining		$ 16,315
Packing		951
Other Materials		28,697
		$ 45,963

Imports of Asbestos by United Kingdom

Raw Material

	August 1950 Tons (2240 lbs.)
From Union of S. Africa	1,782
Southern Rhodesia	2,432
Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland	1,789
Canada	2,872
Other Commonwealth Countries and the Irish Republic	52
Foreign Countries	23
	8,950

Of this 8,950 tons, 5,896 were Chrysotile, and 3,054 of other varieties. Tabulation supplied by the Mining Journal Ltd., of London.

Of the eight months ending with August 1950, 75,228 tons were imported, 51,420 of which were Chrysotile.

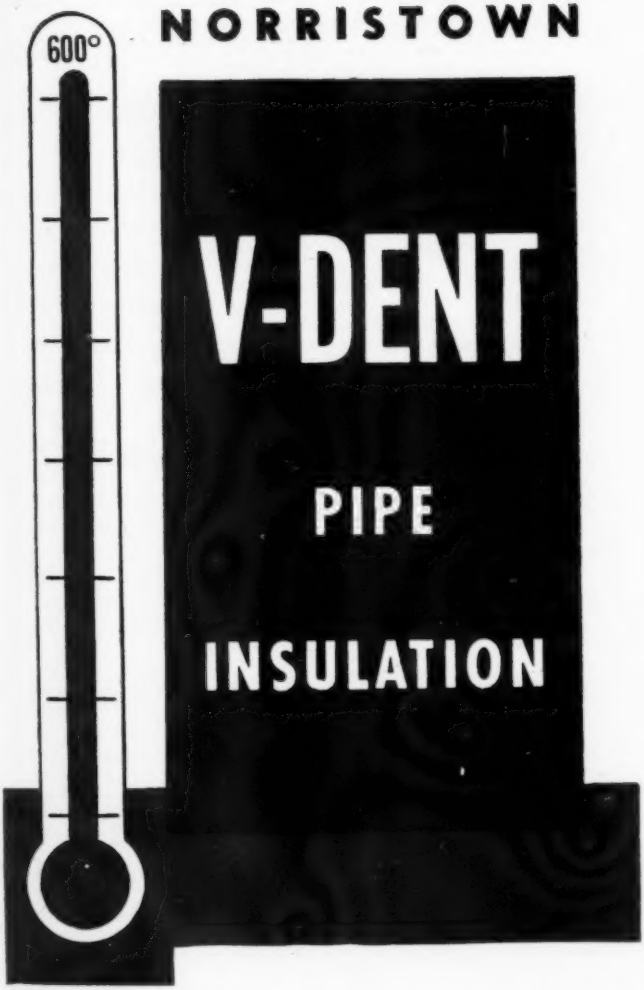
BUILDING

Construction contract awards in the 37 states east of the Rockies in August set another all time high with a total of $1,548,876,000, shattering July's previous record-breaking total of $1,420,181,000 by 9 per cent, it was reported by F. W. Dodge Corporation.

The August total was also 15 per cent higher than the April total of $1,350,496,000 which had stood as the peak figure for 1950 until topped by the July contract award total. The August total was 71 per cent higher than August 1949.

The eight month total for 1950 of $9,823,205,000 was 56 per cent higher than the comparable figure for last year. The total of square feet of floor area for the first eight months was 894,626,000, up 72 per cent over the comparable figure for 1949.

Residential awards in August totaled $754,106,000, an increase of 12 per cent over the July figure and an increase of 92 per cent over the corresponding figure for 1949.


600°
NORRISTOWN
V-DENT
PIPE
INSULATION

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

BIRTHDAYS

Harry E. Humphreys, President, United States Rubber Co., New York City, October 24.

A. K. Burgstresser, Retired, formerly of Norristown Magnesia & Asbestos Co., Norristown, Pa., October 26.

L. R. Hoff, Consultant, Johns-Manville Corp., New York City, October 27.

A. L. Wade, President, Asbestos Insulations, Reg'd., Montreal, P. Q. Canada, October 28.

George L. Abbott, President and General Manager, Garlock Packing Co., Palmyra, N. Y., October 31.

F. E. Byrnes, Vice President & Director, The Ruberoid Co., New York City, N. Y., October 31.

V. A. Spina, Treasurer, Scandinavia Belting Co., Newark, N. J., November 1.

Ernest S. Sprinkmann, President, Sprinkmann Sons Corp., Milwaukee, Wis., November 3.

Kozaburo Nozawa, President, Nozawa Asbestos Industrial Co., Ltd., Kobe, Japan, November 4.

William P. Barry, General Manager, Smith & Kanzler Corp., Linden, N. J., November 5.

Charles Hanslip, President, Standco Brake Lining Co., Houston, Texas, November 8.

G. M. Righter, Export Manager, Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., New York City, N. Y., November 10.

G. A. Rentschler, Chairman of Executive Committee, Philip Carey Mfg. Co., Lockland, Cincinnati 15, Ohio, November 14.

To all these gentlemen we extend best wishes and congratulations on the occasion of their birthdays.

ASBESTOS CHAPTER—
Reprint from 1949 Minerals Yearbook

The 1949 Chapter on Asbestos from the U. S. Minerals Yearbook, published annually by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, has just arrived. All "ASBESTOS" readers who have collected an Asbestos Library, will want a copy. Send 5c (in coin) to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 25, D. C.

It contains salient statistics of the Asbestos Industry in the United States, including a table of World production of Asbestos, 1944 to 1949 inclusive.

Statistics as to Production, Sales, Consumption, etc., in 1949 will be found in our June 1950 number, page 28, having been taken from the mimeographed sheet issued in advance of this printed chapter.

EHRET MAGNESIA MFG. CO.
Appoints Utley W. Smith Sales Manager

Utley W. Smith

Utley W. Smith was appointed Sales Manager of the Ehret Magnesia Mfg. Company, effective September 21, 1950.

Prior to joining the Ehret Company, Mr. Smith was Manager of the Magnesia Insulation Manufacturers Association.

During the war he was Chief of the Asbestos Section of the War Production Board. Mr. Smith first entered the Asbestos Industry in 1937 with the Johns-Manville Organization.

MAURICE N. TRAINER ELECTED
President of American Brake Shoe Company

Maurice N. Trainer, first Vice President of American Brake Shoe Company, was elected President of the company at the meeting of the Board of Directors held September 13. William B. Given, Jr., President for 21 years, was made Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Trainer is a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania. He joined Brake Shoe in 1916 as a brake shoe inspector and moved up; thru the sales departments of the company. In 1938 he became President of the Brake Shoe and Castings Division. In 1943 he was elected first Vice President and in 1944 became a director of the company. He is also President of Dominion Brake Shoe Company, Ltd., a Canadian subsidiary.

The company operates fifty plants in the United States, three in Canada and one in France. It manufactures brake shoes, freight car wheels, automotive and aircraft brake lining, plastic safety flooring, and many other products.

THERMOID COMPANY ELECTS
George S. Lamson, Vice President.

George S. Lamson, Manager of the Automotive Replacement Division of the Thermoid Company, was elected Vice President of the company at a meeting of the Board of Directors, held on August 30th.

Mr. Lamson is one of the best known sales executives in the automotive industry. Prior to joining Thermoid in 1935, he was Eastern Sales Manager for Multibestos Company. He served Thermoid as Southeastern Division Manager with headquarters in San Francisco; from the latter post he was appointed Manager of the Automotive Replacement Division in December 1949.

'URNER & NEWALL LTD.
ssue Anniversary Booklet

On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the formation of Turner & Newall Limited as a group, and on the completion of s first quarter century as a Public Company, the company has sued a most attractive and informative booklet giving particulars f the constituent units of their organization and of the men nder whose management the group has been evolved and is ow operating.

The four original companies which formed the organization were Turner Brothers Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale, England, The Washington Chemical Co., Ltd., Washington, Co. Durham, Newalls Insulation Co., Ltd., Washington, Co. Durham, and J. W. Roberts Ltd., Leeds.

The present Directors of Turner & Newall Ltd., all of whom are working Directors, devoting their whole time to the business, are W. W. F. Shepherd, Chairman, Sir Samuel Turner, Deputy Chairman, H. Hanson, Joint Managing Director, R. H. Turner, Technical Liaison Director, R. Starkey, Chairman of the Boards of the African Mining Companies, G. Wilson and J. A. Smith, Financial Director.

The Subsidiary Companies (each operating independently) are: Turner Brothers Asbestos Co., Ltd., Rochdale, J. W. Roberts Ltd., Armley, Leeds, Ferodo Ltd., Chapel-en-le-Frith; The Washington Chemical Co., Ltd., and Newalls Insulation Co., Ltd., Washington, Co. Durham, Turners Asbestos Cement Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester, African Associated Mines Ltd., Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia, Rhodesian & General Asbestos Corp., Ltd., Shabani, S. Rhodesia, New Amianthus Mines Ltd., Swaziland, Bell Asbestos Mines, Ltd., Thetford Mines, Que. Keasbey & Mattison Co., Ambler, Pa., Turner & Newall (Overseas) Ltd., Montreal, Que., Atlas Asbestos Co., Ltd., Montreal, and Asbestos Cement Ltd., Bombay, India.

Views of the various plants and photographs of the various Directors are shown and the booklet also contains a brief descriptive sketch of each of the subsidiaries.

We are glad to add this to our large collection of information of all kinds on the Asbestos Industry.

CELLACITE & BRITISH URALITE
Technical Handbook on Kimolo (Moler)

Cellactite & British Uralite Ltd. manufacture a fireproof Panelling called Kimoloboard, composed of Asbestos and Diatomite (Moler), and have issued an interesting booklet giving results (illustrated) of severe fire tests on this material. They also issue a booklet—Technical Handbook No. 1 on Kimolo (Moler).

Copies of these booklets will be sent to any reader of "ASBESTOS" on request direct to the manufacturers at Terminal House, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, S. W. 1, London, England.

AMERICAN BRAKE SHOE CO. ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS

Fred P. Biggs has been appointed President of the Brake Shoe and Castings Division, and *Stephen S. Conway* has been named Vice President in charge of sales of the Brake Shoe and Castings and Southern Wheel Division.

Mr. Biggs has served in various sales capacities since joining the company in 1916. He was named Vice President in charge of sales of both Brake Shoe and Castings and Southern Wheel Divisions in 1944, becoming first Vice President of the Brake Shoe Division in 1948.

Mr. Conway was first employed at the division's Chicago Office in 1912. He became a sales representative in 1929, was appointed assistant Vice President in 1944, and Vice President in 1947. Mr. Conway will be located in the company headquarters in New York.

Other appointments made recently are *Ralph L. Robinson* as Vice President of Brake Shoe & Castings and Southern Wheel Division of the company, with offices at 109 N. Wabash Avenue, Chicago, and *Edward R. Anderson*, as Vice President of the Brake Shoe and Castings Division, who will continue to be located in San Francisco.

ASBESTOS CORPORATION LIMITED
Area in Abitibi County, Quebec

Asbestos Corporation Limited are commencing exploratory work on an area of some 8,000 Acres covering a serpentinized peridotite band defined by a magnetic survey. The band is approximately 12 miles long and is contained in Clermont, Lasarre and Royal Roussilon Townships, in Abitibi County, Que.

Faulting conditions appear favorable for the formation of asbestos.

Boyles Bros. have contracted to do the drilling, and four drills are now in operation on the property.

S. A. ASBESTOS TRADING
Change Address

The present address of S. A. Asbestos Trading (Pty) Ltd., is 705-710 Loveday House, Corner Loveday and Marshall Sts., Johannesburg. H. Becker is Manager of this concern. Their old address was 206-7 Commercial Exchange Bldgs., 7 Harrison St. The Post Office Box number is the same as previously No. 8613.

P. L. EDWARDS MADE
Central District Manager Manhattan Rubber

P. L. Edwards has been appointed Manager of the Central District Office of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Manhattan Rubber Division, located in Pittsburgh, Pa. Mr. Edwards succeeds R. C. Rice, who retired from active service with the company.

Mr. Edwards has a long background of experience and accomplishment in the sale of industrial rubber products and during recent years, has served as assistant to Mr. Rice. He assumed his new duties on September 1st.

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN
New Orleans Office at New Location

On October 1st, Raybestos-Manhattan has moved its New Orleans Office and warehouse to 920 Calliope Street. It was formerly located at 1009 Camp Street. The new facilities will enable the company to serve customers in that area with a more complete stock of belting, V-belts, hose, other industrial rubber products, packings and asbestos textiles.

ARTICLE

"A Proposed Method of Test for Specific Heat of Thermal Insulating Materials", by Norman H. Spear, Research Physicist, John B. Pierce Foundation, New Haven, Conn., is in the September 1950 number of the A. S. T. M. Bulletin, published by the American Society for Testing Materials, at 1916 Race St., Philadelphia 3, Pa. (Technical)

PATENTS IN JAPAN

In a recent issue of World Trade News published by the U. S. Department of Commerce and distributed by their Regional Offices, we find the following:

Japan: American manufactures who have a market in Japan will be interested in procuring restoration of patent, utility, model and design rights, which may have been lost in Japan during the war, as well as in obtaining protection for their new inventions and designs. A copy of Cabinet Order 309 (SCAP Instruction 1990), covering provisions for the above, is on file at this Regional Office (812 Lafayette Bldg., 437 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 6) for reference. Action to obtain restoration of patents and designs has been extended for a period of one year commencing February 1, 1950.

While the above is taken from the Philadelphia issue of World Trade News, it is very likely that copies of the Order mentioned, are on file at Regional Offices in other cities.

FRANK H. MOHR
Will Visit African Asbestos Mines

Frank H. Mohr sailed on October 14th, on the S. S. Enterprise, for South Africa where he will visit several of the asbestos mines.

Mr. Mohr was associated with Johns-Manville for more than fifty years. His biography appeared in our February 1950 number.

Upon his return from Africa we hope to publish a short account of his trip and the mines he visited.

PARAFFINE COMPANIES INC.,
Changes Name to Pabco Products Inc.

On November 1, 1950 the Paraffine Companies, Inc., will change its name to PABCO PRODUCTS INC.—there is no change in the management or policies of the Company.

The trade name "Pabco" has been used for at least 50 years and as the name "Paraffine" has no direct identification or connection with the products manufactured, it seems a most logical change.

ASBESTOS AND THE GRAPES OF CYPRUS

By F. W. Kukula.

All readers know of the Asbestos Mines on the island of Cyprus.

Not so many, perhaps have heard of the vineyards there and the wines produced from the fruit. Vineyards cover the slopes of most of the mountains to a height of over 4,000 feet.

It is at about this height that the Asbestos Mines are located. Clouds of dust stream from the mill cyclones and this dust is carried by the prevailing wind into the valley to the south of the Mines. Here it settles on the vines and both leaves and fruit are covered with a thick layer of this very fine grey dust. Yet the grapes produced in this area are of excellent quality and the vinegrowers never complain of this apparent nuisance.

They were in the habit of dusting the vines, as often as necessary with flowers of sulphur every spring to prevent an attack of Powdery Mildew (ouidium) but during the last war no sulphur was available. Heavy damage was caused by this Powdery Mildew all over the Island except in the valley south of the Asbestos Mines. Rumor went around that the asbestos dust protected the vines and grapes and growers from distant part of the Island asked for a supply.

The Government of Cyprus is at present making experiments and results should be published shortly.

In the meantime the growers are firmly convinced that the Asbestos Dust serves the purpose of the sulphur and saves them money and physical effort.

. . . —

Buying insulation is like buying a suit of clothes: the better the materials; the more expert the tailoring, the better your investment. From J-M advertisement.

— . . .

Building materials prices rose 6 per cent in the six weeks ending August 8th, making a total rise of 12% since the beginning of the year. They are now at a new postwar high.—*U. S. Bulletin of Commerce*

PATENTS

This information obtained from the Official Patent Gazette, published weekly by the U. S. Patent Office, Washington, D. C.

Copies of patents can be obtained by sending 25c (in coin) to The Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C., giving the patent number, date it was issued, name of patentee and name of invention.

Insulated Building Block. No. 2,518,640. Granted on August 15, 1950 to John B. Purinton, Cumberland, Md. Application November 11, 1946. Serial No. 640,514.

Coating for Insulation Boards. No. 2,518,359. Granted on August 8, 1950 to Henry Z. Mohrer, Chicago, Ill. Assignor to United States Gypsum Co., Chicago, Ill. Application July 21, 1947. Serial No. 762,543.

BOOK LIST

The Asbestos Factbook, 16 pages. Information in compact form on origin, facts, locations, uses, analyses, qualities, 10c per copy.

Asbestos Mining Methods. By C. V. Smith. (Reprint) 16 pages. 25c per copy.

Milling Asbestos. By J. C. Kelleher. (Reprint) 16 pages. Companion article to Asbestos Mining Methods. Both should be in every Asbestos Library, 25c per copy.

Recovery of Raw Asbestos. By Roland Starkey. (Reprint) 6 pages. Supplement to Milling Asbestos. 25 per copy.

Canadian Chrysotile Asbestos Classification. Including latest Quebec Testing Method. January 1, 1949 Edition. 4 pages. 25c per copy.

Processing Asbestos Fibres. 8 pages. (Reprint) 25c per copy

Tests for Cotton Content. 4 pages (Reprint) Describing several methods of testing asbestos textile for cotton content. 10c per copy.

Chart—Dollars Cost of Uninsulated Pipe. (Reprint) 20c each

Brake Linings of Various Types, By R. T. Halstead. Reprint (12 pages) from August, September and October 1949 "ASBESTOS". Price 25c per copy.

Asbestos—The Silk of the Mineral Kingdom, by Oliver Bowles. 40 pages about asbestos, from mine to finished products, in plain language, illustrated, 25c a copy.

Twelve Estimating Tables, with Chart. Convenient in figuring flange fittings and other areas. $1.00 per set.

Manual of Unit Prices. For figuring pipe covering and blocks. 75c per single copy postpaid. Discount in quantities of 6 or more, postage billed.

Order any of the above from "ASBESTOS", 808 Western Saving Fund Bldg., Philadelphia 7, Pa. Postage stamps acceptable for amounts less than $1.00.

THIS AND THAT

The 7th Annual Convention and Exposition of the National Association of Home Builders will be held in the Stevens and Congress Hotels, Chicago, January 21st to 25th. We are told that demand for exhibit space is the heaviest in the show's history. More information may be obtained from K. E. Shepard, 75 East Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill.

. . . —

"Research Facilities without Capital Investment" is the title of a new 20-page brochure just issued by Foster D. Snell, Inc., Consulting Chemists and Engineers at 29 West 15th St., New York 11. If interested ask them for a copy.

. . . —

The Policyholders Service Bureau of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., 1 Madison Ave., New York 10, has just issued a report "Manpower Planning for National Emergency". They will gladly supply any reader of "ASBESTOS" with a copy upon request.

. . . —

An Open Door Meeting of the Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers will be held on October 24th at 5:00 P. M., Hotel Shelburne, 37th St. and Lexington Ave., New York City, Skyline Room.

. . . —

The National Bureau of Standards has just published a new circular summarizing the activities of the Bureau in the field of plastics since 1917. The subject is treated under 8 different headings: properties of plastics, testing of plastics, plastic materials, applications of plastics, specifications for plastics, general information on plastics and investigation of German technology.

If interested send 15c in coin to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., for a copy of Circular 494, "Plastics Research and Technology at the National Bureau of Standards".

AFTERTHOUGHTS

¶ UNITED NATIONS DAY—October 24th. Have you signed the Freedom Scroll?

¶ Specifications have been accepted for patent on process and devices for spinning and/or twisting in Great Britain. No. 644,806. By British Belting and Asbestos Ltd. (F. Sykes and H. Crowther).

¶ Today's Research pays Tomorrow's Dividends—Slogan on postage meter of Foster D. Snell, Inc.

¶ A reader asks where he can get "Asbestostex" which he describes as a "dye for asbestos siding". He told us that it was made by U. S. Gypsum Co. They tell us that they make "Textolite" for exterior treatment of brick, cement block, stucco and concrete and describe it as an oil-resin paint. If interested we are sure they will be glad to send you one of their folders describing this latter material.

¶ Keep the faculty of effort alive in you by a gratuitous exercise every day. That is, be systematically ascetic or heroic in little unnecessary points, do every day or two something for no other reason than that you would rather not do it, so that when the hour of dire need draws nigh, it may find you not unnerved and untrained to stand the test. — William James.

¶ Work brings its own relief; he who most idle is has most of grief. — Eugene Fitch Ware.

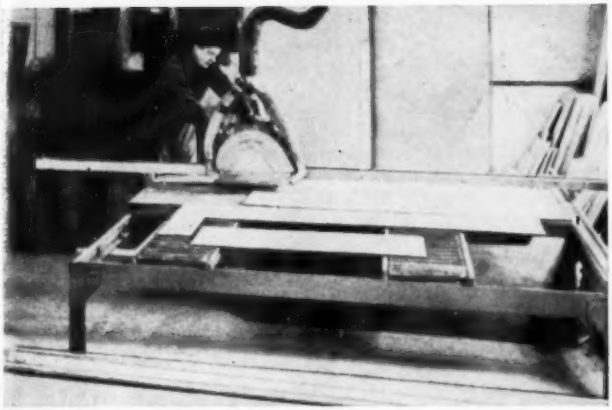
AUTOMOBILE SALES

	August 1950
Passenger Cars	682,782
Motor Trucks	134,853
Motor Coaches	457
	818,092

In August last year 657,664 motor vehicles were sold.

Sales during the first eight months of 1950 totaled 5,275,077; compared with 4,230,996 in the same period in 1949.

These figures were supplied by the Automobile Manufacturers Association, New Center Building, Detroit, Mich.



FAST, LOW-COST WAY for Cutting ASBESTOS PRODUCTS

Pictured is one of the two Stone Saws in use at R. E. Hebert & Co., Rochester, N. Y. This progressive firm uses their Stone Saws for cutting corrugated, sheet and pipe. A typical operation is fast, clean cutting of 1" transite at 8 feet per minute.

A Stone Saw can reduce your asbestos products cutting costs. You'll want to know more about the Stone Saw. Write today.

STONE MACHINERY CO.

111 Fayette Street **Manlius, N. Y.**

CURRENT RANGE OF PRICE

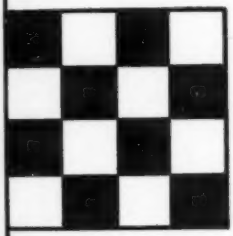
As of October 10, 1950

	Per Ton (2000 lbs.) f.o.b. Mine		
Canada—			
Group No. 1 (Crude No. 1)	$960.00	to	$1,050.00
Group No. 2 Crude No. 2; Crude Run-of-Mine and Sundry	400.00	to	550.00
Group No. 3 (Spinning Fibre)	232.00	to	425.00
Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre)	95.50	to	141.00
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	78.50	to	88.00
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)			58.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	28.00	to	52.00
Vermont—			
	Per Ton of 2000 lbs. f.o.b Hyde Park or Morrisville, Vt		
Group No. 4 (Shingle Fibre)	$111.50	to	$124.00
Group No. 5 (Paper Fibre)	79.00	to	96.50
Group No. 6 (Waste, Stucco or Plaster)			59.00
Group No. 7 (Refuse or Shorts)	28.50	to	52.50

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

(These figures are compiled from the Commercial and Financial Chronicle. No guarantee as to their correctness).

		September 1950		
	Par	Low	High	Last
Amer. Br. Shoe (Com.)	np	37	40½	37½
Amer. Br. Shoe (Pfd.)	100	106⅜	109½	108½
Armstrong Cork (Com.)	np	45½	49	49
Armstrong Cork (Pfd.)	np	101¼	102½	102
Armstrong Cork (Conv. Pfd.)	np	111¼	116½	115
Asb. Corp. (Com.)	np	32¾	36½	36½
Asb. Mfg. Co. (Com.)	1	1⅛	1¼	1⅛
Carey (Com.)	10	15¾	17⅛	17⅛
Celotex (Com.)	np	14⅞	17⅛	17⅛
Celotex (Pfd.)	20	16	16⅞	16¾
Certainteed (Com.)	1	14¼	16⅛	16
Flintkote (Com.)	np	24⅝	28	27⅛
Flintkote (Pfd.)	np	105	109	106½
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	41	48½	48
Paraffine (Com.)	np	15⅛	17	16¾
Paraffine (Pfd.)	100	97⅛	100½	99
Ray-Man (Com.)	np	31	32¾	32⅜
Ruberoid (Com.)	np	49	55	54¼
Thermoid (Com.)	1	7½	8	7⅝
Thermoid (Pfd.)	50	40	43	43
Union Asbestos & Rub. (Com.)	5	11⅛	12	12
United Asb. (Com.)	1	45c	60c	51c
U. S. Gypsum (Com.)	20	104	115	115
U. S. Gypsum (Pfd.)	100	182¾	186½	183¾
U. S. Rubber (Com.)	10	45	51⅜	51⅜
U. S. Rubber (Pfd.)	100	137¾	141½	140¾



NO

The code flag above is the international signal for "No." It's a flag you'll never see flying above the research departments of Raybestos-Manhattan. We welcome those who seek new products from asbestos. Our answer to requests for cooperative research is in the affirmative.

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC.

Asbestos Textile Division • Manheim, Pa.

Factories: Manheim, Pa.; No. Charleston, S.C.

RAYBESTOS-MANHATTAN, INC., Manufacturers of Asbestos Textiles Packings • Mechanical Rubber Products • Abrasive and Diamond Wheels Brake Linings • Brake Blocks • Clutch Facings • Fan Belts • Radiator Hose Rubber Covered Equipment • Powdered Metal Products • Bowling Balls

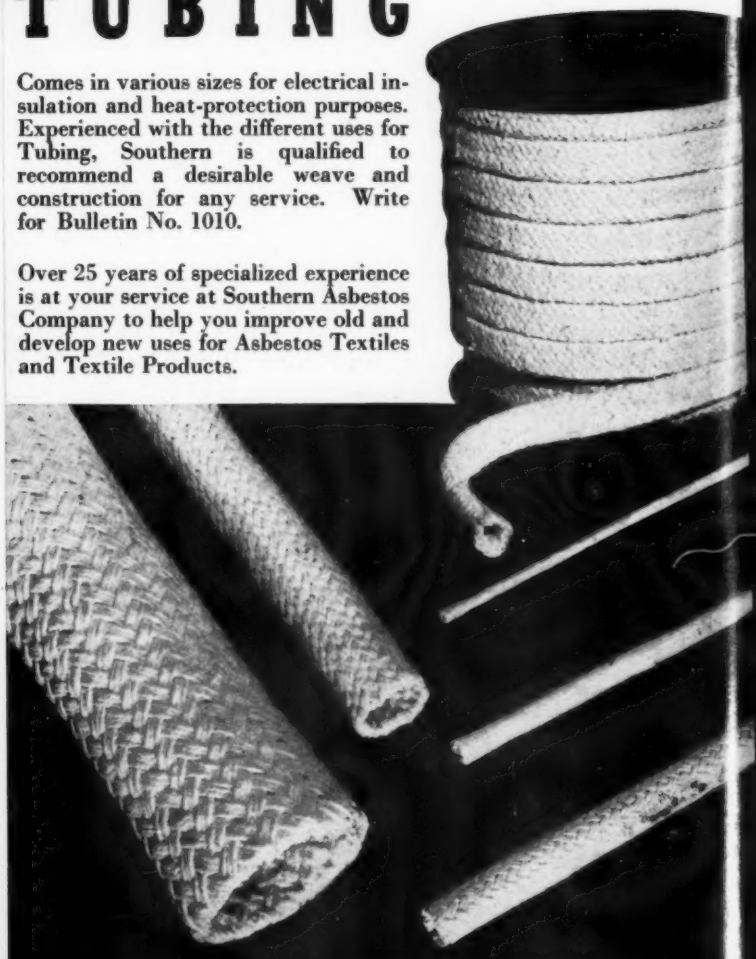
SOUTHERN ASBESTOS

Braided and Woven

TUBING

Comes in various sizes for electrical insulation and heat-protection purposes. Experienced with the different uses for Tubing, Southern is qualified to recommend a desirable weave and construction for any service. Write for Bulletin No. 1010.

Over 25 years of specialized experience is at your service at Southern Asbestos Company to help you improve old and develop new uses for Asbestos Textiles and Textile Products.



SOUTHERN ASBESTOS COMPANY • CHARLOTTE 1, N.